

Congressman Ted Lieu is a strong advocate for all Americans, including Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). He serves on the leadership committee of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus ([CAPAC](#)), which helps to promote the well-being of the AAPI community. Congressman Lieu was elected DPCC Co-Chair by his colleagues and is the only Asian American Member and only veteran in House Democratic Leadership. He currently serves on the House Judiciary and Foreign Affairs committees.

FIGHTING AGAINST THE RISE OF ANTI-ASIAN HATE

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a surge in discrimination against AAPIs. Congressman Lieu repeatedly condemned acts of violence and hate against Asian Americans, including the [tragic shooting in Atlanta](#) that took the lives of eight people, six of whom were Asian women, and [called for action](#). Rep. Lieu also [spoke out](#) about the dangers of public officials using [racist terms](#) and ethnic identifiers such as “Kung Flu” when describing COVID-19 because such phrases [inflict harm](#) on the Asian American community. In 2020, Congressman Lieu led a 150 Member [bipartisan letter](#) urging the Department of Justice to condemn anti-Asian discrimination and coauthored [H.Res. 908](#), a House resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment related to COVID-19. As co-Chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Antisemitism, Congressman Lieu held a [virtual roundtable](#) on combating anti-Asian and anti-Semitic intolerance. Congressman Lieu also authored [legislation](#) to make it easier for prosecutors to charge a federal hate crimes violation.

ENSURING OUR GOVERNMENT TREATS ASIAN AMERICANS FAIRLY

Congressman Lieu [worked](#) with CAPAC and the Oversight and Government Reform (OGR) [Committee](#) to bring attention to AAPIs in regards to [racial targeting](#) and profiling, and [advocated](#) for implicit bias training for [Department of Justice personnel](#). He [fought](#) the false narrative that Chinese-Americans are more suspicious by advocating for researchers wrongly accused of espionage like [Sherry Chen](#), [Professor Xi Xiaoxing](#), and [Professor Anming Hu](#). Congressman Lieu is working with the House Foreign Affairs Committee to ensure the State Department does not discriminate against Asian American employees when it comes to country assignments.

INCREASING DIVERSITY AND AAPI REPRESENTATION

AAPIs are the fastest growing racial demographic in our country, but are not well-represented in government, mass media, board positions with Fortune 500 companies and more. Congressman Lieu has advocated for more AAPI representation in media, including [Hollywood](#). Within the federal government, Congressman Lieu has highlighted the [lack of diversity](#) among staff and called for [investigations](#) into the wrongful targeting of Asian-American employees. In the California legislature, Lieu helped increase the number of minorities appointed to judicial positions and secured increased funding to Asian American nonprofits.

HONORING AAPI VETERANS

In 2018, Congress passed and the President signed Congressman Lieu’s bipartisan, bicameral [legislation](#) with Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and former Representative Ed Royce (R-CA) and Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS) to honor the contributions of more than 18,000 Chinese-American World War II veterans. The Chinese-American World WWII Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act authorized Congress to award the highest civilian honor - a Congressional Gold Medal - to these heroes. A virtual Congressional ceremony honoring these veterans was held on December 9, 2020.